

# The National Library of Medicine





8600 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, Maryland 20014

Telephone 301 656-4000

TWX 710-824-9616

HOURS	Reading Room	Monday-Friday	8:30 a.m.-9 p.m.	Summer Hours	
		Saturday	8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.	Monday-Saturday	8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
		Sunday	closed	Sunday	closed
	History of Medicine Collection		Monday-Saturday	8:30 a.m.-4:45 p.m.	

The Library is closed on national holidays.

TOURS	Monday-Friday	3:00 p.m.	EXHIBITS	Rare books, manuscripts, prints on the history of medicine, and displays of medical subjects are regularly exhibited in the lobby. Visitors are welcome.	
	Call 301 496-1030 or write to the Public Information Office for advance registration or special arrangements.				

FILMS    Films on the Library and Medlars may be viewed by appointment and are available on loan from the National Medical Audiovisual Center (Annex), Station K, Atlanta, Georgia 30324.



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
Public Health Service  
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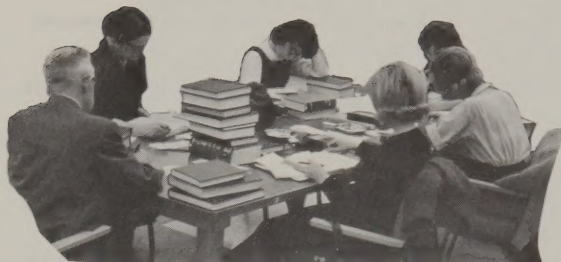
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## INTRODUCTION

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The National Library of Medicine, in Bethesda, Maryland, the world's largest library in a single scientific field, is more than just a collection of materials: it is an institution dedicated to serving the information needs of health professionals. It is also committed to the development of a biomedical communications network to enhance health care, education, and research. The establishment and support of 11 Regional Medical Libraries is an important aspect in the development of the network.

This brochure is an introduction to the Library's history, programs, and ways to use its services. More specific information may be obtained from the Office of Public Information, National Library of Medicine, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20014.



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## HISTORY

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The Library was originally established in 1836 as the Library of the Surgeon General's Office. Its basic role was to serve the needs of military medical officers and, with small funds, the collection was mostly limited to material on clinical medicine and public health.

With the arrival in 1865 of Dr. John Shaw Billings, the Library's mission was expanded and organized. Medical publications were made available to physicians generally. The appearance in January 1879 of the first issue of *Index Medicus*, and, in 1880, of Volume I of the *Index-Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon General's Office, United States Army*, marked the inception of a publications program which has continued with few interruptions to the present day. The Library's collections were enlarged from the 1,800 volumes of 1865, as reported by Billings, to 50,000 volumes and 60,000 pamphlets in 1880. His energetic program of acquisitions, by purchase, by exchange, and by gift—as at NLM today—steadily expanded both size and scope of the collection.



Dr. John Shaw Billings.

Following Billings' tradition, the Library has continued to pioneer in the rapid dissemination of information. Such revolutionary library technology as photoduplication for interlibrary loans and computerized information storage and retrieval were first introduced by NLM. Currently, the National Library of Medicine is planning for and developing biomedical communications networks which may eventually employ space satellites.



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## COLLECTION

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The Library collects materials exhaustively in some 40 biomedical areas and, to a lesser degree, in such related subjects as general chemistry, physics, zoology, botany, psychology, and instrumentation. The holdings include nearly one and a half million books, journals, technical reports, documents, theses, pamphlets, microfilms, and pictorial and audiovisual materials. Housed in the Library is one of the Nation's largest medical history collections, with contents dating from the 11th to the mid-19th century. The History of Medicine collection may be consulted Monday-Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Other collections may be consulted Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m., and Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (These hours are modified during the summer months.)

Top to Bottom: Book Stacks, Reading Room, Videotape Viewing Area.









Modern Equipment Is Used for Film Maintenance at the National Medical Audiovisual Center.

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## HOW TO USE THE COLLECTION

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Most of the literature in the collection is available on loan through any library: Interlibrary loan requests should be submitted through a local medical library, where the staff will fill out the prescribed forms, giving a complete bibliographic citation for each request. Requests may be submitted either by mail or by TWX. The Library's TWX number is 710-824-9616.

Motion pictures will be loaned to health professionals on request to the National Medical Audiovisual Center (Annex), Station K, Atlanta, Georgia 30324. (A brochure titled *The National Medical Audiovisual Center*, available on request from the address above, provides further information on the Center's programs.)

Interior of Library. Engraved illustration from: Florinus, Franciscus Philippus, *pseud.* Oeconomus Prudens et Legalis . . . , Nuremberg, 1722.  
From the History of Medicine Picture Collection.

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## MEDLARS

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The Library's computer-based Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System (Medlars) was established to achieve rapid bibliographic access to NLM's vast store of biomedical information. It became operational in January 1964 with the publication of the first computer-produced issue of *Index Medicus*, a comprehensive, subject-author index to articles from approximately 2,200 of the world's biomedical journals. The principal objective of Medlars is to provide references to the biomedical literature for research scientists, clinicians, and other health professionals. This is accomplished through:

- (1) preparation of citations for publication in *Index Medicus* and the *NLM Current Catalog*,
- (2) compilation of other recurring bibliographies on specialized subjects of wide interest,
- (3) production of retrospective, one-time bibliographies (demand searches), in response to requests submitted by health professionals, and
- (4) publication and distribution of selected "Literature Searches" on a wide basis. A complete list of bibliographies is available on request from NLM.







Exhibit on Medicine of the American Indians—Entrance Foyer



Xerox Copyflo



Incunabula



Medlars Computer Console



Reading Room in History of Medicine Division



Mobile Camera



Chemical Apparatus. Engraved Illustration from J. Parkinson. *Chemical Pocket Book*, Philadelphia, 1802.

From the History of Medicine Picture Collection.

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## MEDLARS/NETWORK

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To provide more rapid dissemination of biomedical information, the Library has been developing a network arrangement through which Medlars and interlibrary loan services can be shared more efficiently by medical libraries. In the United States, the network consists of 11 Medlars stations and 11 Regional Medical Libraries. Although the National Library of Medicine remains the heart of the network, more and more services are being provided directly by regional libraries. Users may request demand searches through a local library. Write for the *Guide to Medlars Services*, available from NLM at no charge (see inside back cover).

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## TOXICOLOGY INFORMATION PROGRAM

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This program was begun in 1967 to provide a national focal point of access to information in toxicology. A quarterly *Toxicity Bibliography* began publication in January 1968 (see publications list). Other program objectives include organizing a standardized toxicology vocabulary, maintaining a roster of expert advisers in toxicology, identifying and characterizing files of information on toxicology, and establishing a computer-based system incorporating all information from those centers and other information sources.





The Chymist (Detail). Interior of a Laboratory, Engraved After a Painting by David Teniers the Younger (1610-1690). From the History of Medicine Picture Collection.

\* Construction grants are administered by the Division of Educational and Research Facilities, Bureau of Health Professions Education and Manpower Training, National Institutes of Health, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20014.

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## GRANTS

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The grant programs of the National Library of Medicine were originally authorized by the Medical Library Assistance Act of 1965 (Public Law 89-291) to provide better health information services through support of: improved health library resources, increased trained manpower, and development of modern health communications tools and techniques. The Act, continued by a three-year Extension Act in 1970 (Public Law 91-212), offers grant support in seven categories:

- Resources
- Training
- Research
- Special Scientific Projects
- Publications
- Regional Medical Libraries
- Construction

These programs are introduced in a booklet titled *The National Library of Medicine Grant Programs*, which is available by writing: Associate Director for Extramural Programs, National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, Maryland 20014.



Satellite Communications Antenna atop the NIH Clinical Center

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## LISTER HILL NATIONAL CENTER FOR BIOMEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS

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The Library moved into the space age when the 90th Congress passed a joint resolution authorizing the establishment of the Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications, named in honor of the former Senator from Alabama. It serves as the focal point within the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare for communications systems and network projects.

The Center has the responsibility, within the Library, for applying computer and other communications technologies to improve health care

delivery, and aid medical education and biomedical research. Current projects include (1) an experimental, on-line remote access bibliographic service called AIM-TWX; (2) tests in using a NASA satellite for voice and data communications between the Center, the University of Alaska, and designated clinical centers, to improve health care services in Alaska; and (3) the use of television technology to extend the resources of a New England university medical center to health professionals isolated from major medical resources.



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## PUBLICATIONS

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NLM's bibliographies, catalogs, and other guides to medical literature may be purchased from the *Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402*. (Please do not send orders to the National Library of Medicine.) Remittance should accompany orders, and foreign orders should include an additional 25% of the domestic price to cover mailing. The prices quoted below are those in effect for 1971; an updated list is available from the Office of Public Information, NLM.

### *Index Medicus*

*Index Medicus* is published monthly as a bibliographic listing of references to current articles from approximately 2,200 of the world's biomedical journals. Each issue contains a subject and name section and a separate *Bibliography of Medical Reviews*. *Medical Subject Headings* is included as Part 2 of the January issue. Annual subscription price: \$63.00 (\$78.75 foreign); single issues \$5.00.

### *Cumulated Index Medicus*

Volume 11 (1970) is a cumulation in eight volumes of the approximately 210,000 citations to articles appearing in *Index Medicus* in 1970. Also included are *Medical Subject Headings*, *List of Journals Indexed in Index Medicus*, and *Bibliography of Medical Reviews*. Price: \$84.00 (\$92.25 foreign). [Volume 10 (1969): \$90.50 (\$100.00 foreign)]

### *List of Journals Indexed in Index Medicus*

The 1971 *List of Journals Indexed* contains four listings

of the 2,200 journals indexed in *Index Medicus*: title, abbreviation, subject, and geographical. Price \$1.25.

### *Abridged Index Medicus*

A monthly bibliography, based on articles from 100 English-language journals, designed for the needs of the individual practitioner and libraries of small hospitals and clinics. Annual subscription price: \$12.00 (\$15.00 foreign); \$1.00 for individual issues. Annual cumulation (1970): \$10.00 (\$12.50 foreign).

### *Medical Subject Headings*

*Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)* is published as Part 2 of the January issue of *Index Medicus*. The approximately 7,600 subject headings in the 1971 MeSH are arranged alphabetically, with cross-references, and in categorized lists. (Included with subscription to *Index Medicus*; also available separately for \$3.00.)

### *Monthly Bibliography of Medical Reviews*

The *Monthly BMR* is a series designed to provide quick guidance to the latest reviews in the journal literature of biomedicine. Each monthly issue duplicates the material appearing in the *Bibliography of Medical Reviews* section of the corresponding monthly issue of *Index Medicus*. Price for one year's subscription (twelve monthly issues): \$4.50 (\$5.75 foreign).

### *NLM Current Catalog*

Bibliographic listing of citations to publications cataloged by the Library. Issued in three forms: (a) monthly (name section only), (b) quarterly (non-cumulating, subject and name sections), and (c) annual cumulation (subject and name sections). Prices: (a) 12 monthly issues—\$7.50 (\$9.50 foreign); (b) 4 quarterly issues—\$13.00 (\$16.25 foreign); and (c) annual cumulation (1970)—\$16.25

(\$20.35 foreign). Annual cumulation for 1969—\$14.25 (\$17.85 foreign). (Eight-volume cumulation covering 1965-1970: in press, price to be announced.)

#### *Toxicity Bibliography*

The quarterly *Toxicity Bibliography* covers the adverse and toxic effects of drugs and chemicals reported in the approximately 2,200 journals indexed for *Index Medicus*. Price: \$14.00 per year (\$17.50 foreign); single issues \$3.50.

#### *Selected References on Environmental Quality as It Relates to Health*

This monthly bibliography provides a subject and author index to journal articles covering aspects of environmental pollution that concern health. Annual subscription price: \$4.00 (\$5.00 foreign); single issues \$0.40.

#### *A Catalogue of Sixteenth Century Printed Books in the National Library of Medicine*

Over 4,800 rare sixteenth century printed volumes from NLM's History of Medicine Division collection are listed. Some 1,500 printers and publishers and 188 different printing centers in fourteen European countries are indexed in detail. Casebound. 1967. 698 pages. Price: \$5.25.

#### *Bibliography of the History of Medicine*

Number 4, 1968, is the fourth of an annual series of bibliographies on the history of medicine and related sciences, professions, and institutions. Prices: Number 2, 1966 (Public Health Service Publication No. 1540-2) \$1.25; Number 3, 1967 (PHS Pub. No. 1540-3) \$2.75; Number 4, 1968 (PHS Pub. No. 1540-4) \$2.75. (Number 5, covering 1965-1970: in press, price to be announced.)

#### *International Bibliography of Medicolegal Serials 1736-1967*

An annotated listing of serials published on legal med-

icine and related fields. Includes six indexes (title, editors, publishers and sponsors, subject, geographical, and chronological). 1969. Price: \$1.25.

#### *The Principles of Medlars*

A 77-page illustrated booklet, designed for the user of Medlars publications and search services, describing the intellectual processes and interactions involved in the provision of Medlars bibliographies. 1970. Price: \$0.75.

#### *Medlars: 1963-67*

Comprehensive description of NLM's computer system, Medlars (Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System). 76 pages with illustrations. Public Health Service Publication No. 1823. 1968. Price: \$0.75.

#### *National Medical Audiovisual Center Catalog*

The 1970 NMAC Catalog lists audiovisuals, available on short-term free loan to health professionals, from NLM's Atlanta-based National Medical Audiovisual Center. Price: \$1.25.

#### *Film Reference Guide for Medicine and Allied Sciences*

Published annually for the Federal Advisory Council on Medical Training Aids. The 1970 edition contains information on approximately 2,000 films. Public Health Service Publication No. 487, revised 1970. Price: \$2.75.

#### *NLM Classification*

*The National Library of Medicine Classification: A Scheme for the Shelf Arrangement of Books in the Field of Medicine and Its Related Sciences*. 3rd Edition, 1964, with Supplementary Pages (1969). Public Health Service Publication No. 1108, reprinted 1969. Price: \$2.75.

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## RECURRING BIBLIOGRAPHIES

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The National Library of Medicine, through its computer-based Medlars (Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System), periodically produces lists of citations to journal articles in specialized biomedical fields. Most of these lists, termed "Recurring Bibliographies," are printed and distributed by nonprofit professional organizations and other government agencies with whom the Library cooperates.

(1) The *Bibliography on Medical Education* is published monthly in the *Journal of Medical Education* (\$15.00 per year). Cumulations for 1964-65, 1966, and 1967 are available from the Association of American Medical Colleges, 2530 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, Illinois, 60201 for \$2.00 each.

(2) The quarterly *Cerebrovascular Bibliography* is prepared under the auspices of the Joint Council Subcommittee on Cerebrovascular Disease, National Heart Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20014. Distribution is limited. For information write to the Executive Secretary, Joint Council Subcommittee on Cerebrovascular Disease.

(3) The monthly bibliography, *Fibrinolysis, Thrombolysis, and Blood Clotting*, is distributed by the National Heart Institute. For information write to Dr. James M. Stengle, National Heart Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20014.

(4) The monthly *Index of Rheumatology* is available

from the American Rheumatism Association Section of The Arthritis Foundation, 1212 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036. Price: \$6.00 per year (\$7.00 foreign); \$3.50 to members of the American Rheumatism Association.

(5) The quarterly *Index to Dental Literature* is sold by the American Dental Association, 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611. Price: \$20.00 for four cumulative issues (including annual cumulation); \$10.00 for annual cumulation alone.

(6) The quarterly *International Nursing Index* is sold by the American Journal of Nursing Company, 10 Columbus Circle, New York, New York 10019. Price: \$25.00 for four cumulative issues (including cumulation); \$20.00 for annual cumulation alone.

(7) The quarterly *Artificial Kidney Bibliography* is published by the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases. For information write to the Scientific Communications Officer, National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20014. The bibliography is sold by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Price: \$1.00 per year (\$1.25 foreign); single issues, \$0.30.

(8) The bimonthly *Endocrinology Index* is published by the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20014.



The bibliography is sold by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Price: \$16.00 per year (\$20.00 foreign); single issues, \$2.75.

(9) The *Bibliography of Surgery of the Hand*, an annual, is published and distributed by the American Society for Surgery of the Hand. For information write to John P. Adams, M.D., Chairman, American Society for Surgery of the Hand, 2150 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

(10) The *Anesthesiology Bibliography*, a quarterly, is published and distributed by the American Society of Anesthesiologists. For information write: Wood Library, Museum of Anesthesiology, American Society of Anesthesiologists, 515 Busse Highway, Park Ridge, Illinois 60068.

(11) The quarterly *Toxicity Bibliography* is published by the National Library of Medicine and distributed by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Price: \$14.00 per year (\$17.50 foreign); single issues, \$3.50.

(12) The monthly *Current Bibliography of Epidemiology (CuBE)* is published by the American Public Health Association. Annual subscription price, including annual cumulation: \$35.00. Write: Subscription Office, CuBE, American Public Health Association, 1740 Broadway, New York, New York 10032.

(13) The *Neurosurgical Biblio-Index* is published annually by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons. For information write to the Subscription Manager, *Journal of Neurosurgery*, Suite 1230, 251 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611.

(14) The *Cranio-Facial—Cleft Palate Bibliography* is published quarterly by the American Cleft Palate Associa-

tion. For information write to the Chairman, Nomenclature Committee, Box 3098, Division of Plastic, Maxillofacial and Oral Surgery, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina 27706.

(15) The *Index of Investigative Dermatopathology and Dermatology* is published monthly by the Universities Associated for Research and Education in Pathology, Inc. For information write to the UAREP, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20014.

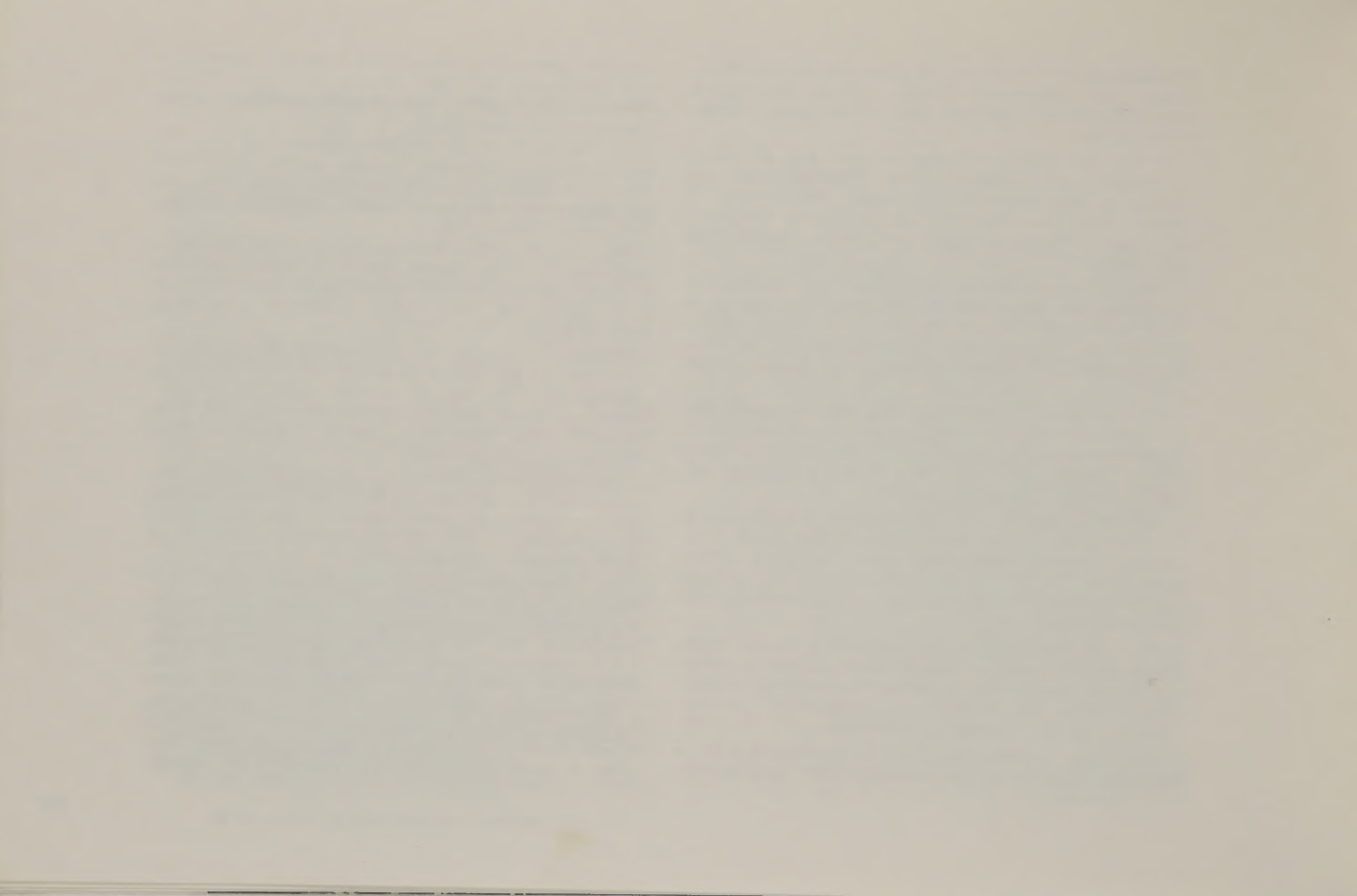
(16) The *Recurring Bibliography of Hypertension* is published bimonthly by the American Heart Association Inc. For subscription information write: The American Heart Association, Inc., 44 East 23rd Street, New York, New York 10010.

(17) Requests for the annual *Recurring Bibliography on Education in the Allied Health Professions* should be addressed to: Dr. Kathryn Schoen, Assistant Director, School of Allied Medical Professions, the Ohio State University, 410 West 10th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43210. Price: \$1.00 per copy.

(18) *Parkinson's Disease and Related Disorders, Citations from the Literature*, is published monthly by the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke. For information write: NINDS, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20014.

(19) *Selected References on Environmental Quality as It Relates to Health* is a monthly bibliography published by the National Library of Medicine and distributed, beginning January 1971, by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Price: \$4.00 (\$5.00 foreign); \$0.40 for individual issues.

(20) An annual *Index of Tissue Culture* is published by the Tissue Culture Association, Inc., W. Alton Jones Cell Science Center, P.O. Box 631, Lake Placid, New York 12946. A quadrennial index was published for 1966-69.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City & State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me the following:

☐ Publications lists

☐ Guide to Medlars Services

☐ Further information on library programs  
(specify):

\_\_\_\_\_

Enclose in envelope and mail to:

National Library of Medicine  
8600 Rockville Pike  
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